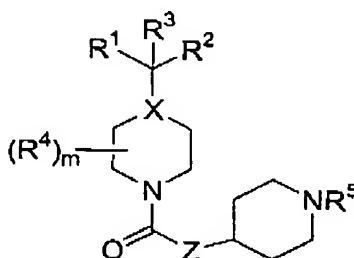


Amendments to the Claims:

The listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listing of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claim 1 (currently amended): A compound represented by the structural formula:



Formula I

wherein:

X is CH or N;

Z is O or N(R⁶);

R¹ and R² are the same or different, each being independently selected from the group consisting of aryl, heteroaryl, aralkyl and heteroaralkyl, wherein each of said aryl, heteroaryl, aralkyl and heteroaralkyl can be unsubstituted or optionally independently substituted with one or more moieties which can be the same or different, each moiety being independently selected from the group consisting of halogen, alkyl, aryl, heteroaryl, aralkyl, heteroaralkyl, cycloalkyl, heterocyclyl, CF₃, CN, -OCF₃, -OR⁶, -C(O)R⁷, -NR⁶R⁷, -C(O)OR⁶, -C(O)NR⁶R⁷, -SR⁶, -S(O₂)R⁷, -S(O₂)NR⁶R⁷, -N(R⁶)S(O₂)R⁷, -N(R⁶)C(O)R⁷ and -N(R⁶)C(O)NR⁶R⁷;

R³ is H or -OR⁶, with the proviso that when X is N, R³ is not -OR⁶;

R⁴ is selected from the group consisting of H, alkyl, aryl, cycloalkyl, aralkyl, heteroaryl, heteroaralkyl and heterocyclyl;

m is a number from 0 to 4, and when m is more than 1, the R⁴ groups can be the same or different and are independently selected;

R⁵ is -C(O)R⁷ or -S(O₂)R⁷;

R^6 is selected from the group consisting of H, alkyl, aryl, heteroaryl, aralkyl, heteroaralkyl, cycloalkyl and heterocyclyl, wherein each of said alkyl, aryl, heteroaryl, aralkyl, heteroaralkyl, cycloalkyl and heterocyclyl can be unsubstituted or optionally independently substituted with one or more moieties which can be the same or different, each moiety being independently selected from the group consisting of halogen, alkyl, aryl, cycloalkyl, CF_3 , OCF_3 , CN, $-OR^7$, $-NHR^7$, $-N(R^7)_2$, $-CH_2OR^7$, $-C(O)R^7$, $-C(O)OR^7$, $-C(O)NHR^7$, $-C(O)N(R^7)_2$, $-SR^7$, $-S(O_2)R^7$, $-S(O_2)NHR^7$, $-S(O_2)N(R^7)_2$, $-N(R^7)S(O_2)R^7$, $-N(R^7)C(O)R^7$, $-N(R^7)C(O)NHR^7$ and $-N(R^7)C(O)N(R^7)_2$; and

R^7 is selected from the group consisting of alkyl, aryl, heteroaryl, aralkyl, heteroaralkyl, $-OR^6$, $-NHR^6$, and $-N(R^6)_2$, wherein each of said alkyl, heteroaralkyl, aryl, heteroaryl and aralkyl can be unsubstituted or optionally substituted with one or more moieties which can be the same or different, each moiety being independently selected from the group consisting of halogen, alkyl, aryl, cycloalkyl, CF_3 , OCF_3 , CN, $-OR^6$, $-NHR^6$, $-N(R^6)_2$, $-CH_2OR^6$, $-C(O)OR^6$, $-C(O)NHR^6$, $-C(O)N(R^6)_2$, $-SR^6$, $-S(O_2)R^6$, $-S(O_2)NHR^6$, $-S(O_2)N(R^6)_2$, $-N(R^6)S(O_2)R^6$, $-N(R^6)C(O)R^6$, $-N(R^6)C(O)NHR^6$ and $-N(R^6)C(O)N(R^6)_2$.

further wherein the two R^6 or the two R^7 groups in the moieties $-N(R^6)_2$ and $-N(R^7)_2$ respectively can be the same or different and are independently selected, and still further wherein any two adjacent alkyl substituents on an aryl or heteroaryl can be joined together to form a methylenedioxy or ethylenedioxy group, still further wherein said "heteroaryl" refers to an aromatic monocyclic or multicyclic ring system comprising 5 to 10 ring atoms, in which one or more of the ring atoms is nitrogen, oxygen or sulfur, alone or in combination, and said "heterocyclyl" refers to a non-aromatic saturated monocyclic or multicyclic ring system comprising 5 to 10 ring atoms, in which one or more of the atoms in the ring system is nitrogen, oxygen or sulfur, alone or in combination.

Claim 2: Cancelled.

Claim 3 (original): The compound of claim 1, wherein Z is O.

Claim 4 (original): The compound of claim 1, wherein Z is $N(R^6)$.

Claim 5 (original): The compound of claim 1, wherein R^1 and R^2 are the same and are aryl or heteroaryl, wherein each of said aryl and heteroaryl is

either unsubstituted or optionally independently substituted with one or more moieties which can be the same or different, each moiety being independently selected from the group consisting of halogen, alkyl, $-\text{CF}_3$, $-\text{CN}$, $-\text{OCF}_3$, $-\text{OR}^6$, $-\text{C(O)R}^7$, and $-\text{C(O)OR}^6$.

Claim 6 (original): The compound of claim 1, wherein R^3 is H.

Claim 7 (original): The compound of claim 1, wherein R^4 is H.

Claim 8 (original): The compound of claim 1, wherein R^5 is $-\text{C(O)R}^7$ or $-\text{S(O}_2\text{)R}^7$.

Claim 9 (original): The compound of claim 8, wherein R^5 is $-\text{C(O)R}^7$.

Claim 10 (original): The compound of claim 1, wherein R^6 is selected from the group consisting of H, alkyl, aryl, $-\text{CF}_3$, $-\text{C(O)R}^7$ and $-\text{S(O}_2\text{)R}^7$.

Claim 11 (original): The compound of claim 10, wherein R^6 is H, methyl or CF_3 .

Claim 12 (original): The compound of claim 1, wherein R^7 is selected from the group consisting of alkyl, aralkyl and aryl.

Claim 13 (original): The compound of claim 4, wherein R^6 is H.

Claim 14 (original): The compound of claim 5, wherein R^1 and R^2 are the same and are phenyl, wherein said both phenyl groups are unsubstituted.

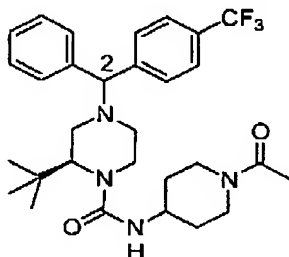
Claim 15 (original): The compound of claim 5, wherein R^1 is unsubstituted phenyl and R^2 is a phenyl substituted with one or more moieties selected from the group consisting of halogen, alkyl, $-\text{CF}_3$, $-\text{OCF}_3$, and $-\text{C(O)R}^7$.

Claim 16 (original): The compound of claim 12, wherein R^7 is alkyl.

Claim 17 (currently amended): A compound of the formula:

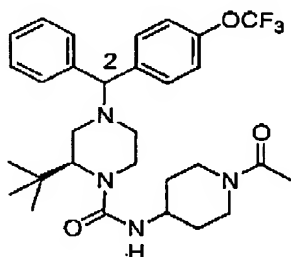
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Claim 34 (original): A compound of claim 1, having the structure:



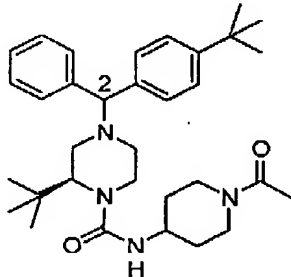
or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt or solvate thereof.

Claim 35 (original): A compound of claim 1, having the structure:



or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt or solvate thereof.

Claim 36 (original): A compound of claim 1, having the structure:



or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt or solvate thereof.

Claim 37: Cancelled.